

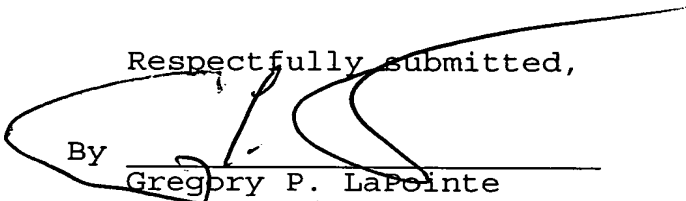
Remarks/Arguments:

Amendments have been made to the claims to remove improper multiple dependencies in order to conform with U.S. practice. An early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

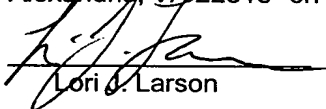
Respectfully submitted,

By


Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 28,395

Date: August 20, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on August 20, 2004.


Lori J. Larson

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